

COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND METHOD

ABSTRACT

A communications system (1) includes a plurality of nodes (2). Each node (2) has receiving means for receiving
5 a signal transmitted by wireless transmitting means;
transmitting means for wireless transmission of a signal;
and, means for determining if a signal received by said
node (2) includes information for another node (2) and
causing a signal including said information to be
10 transmitted by said transmitting means to another node (2)
if said received signal includes information for another
node (2). Each node (2) has a substantially unidirectional
point-to-point wireless transmission link (3) with at least
one other node (2) such that each node (2) can transmit a
15 signal to at least one other node (2). At least some of
the nodes (2) have plural substantially unidirectional
point-to-point wireless transmission links (3). Each link
(3) between respective pairs of nodes (2) is associated
with a distinct time slot. The nodes (2) are linked so as
20 to form transmission path loops thereby to provide plural
choices of path for the transmission of a signal between at
least some of the nodes (2). Each loop consists of an even
number of links (3).